

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Applicant is submitting a draft of corrected sheets 1 and 3, with numerical call outs added to FIGS. 4 and 5, specifically indicating mounting holes 34 and stock module 12. Call out 32 is moved in FIGS. 1, 2A, 2B, 2c, and 2d to demarcate the actual latch anchor and other call outs on Sheet 1 are re-arranged and some are added for clearer demarcation.

REMARKS:

Claims 1-17 are currently pending in the Application.

The Disclosure was objected to because of two informalities.

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with enablement.

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctively claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by both Baretta, U.S. Pat. No. 4,282,795, and Hughes, U.S. Pat. No. 5,346,281.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Marquez, U.S. Pat. No. 5,997,053.

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hutton, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 3,949,507.

No claims were allowed.

REGARDING EXAMINER'S DISCLOSURE OBJECTIONS:

Applicant's proposed drawing corrections to Sheet 3 should suffice to alleviate Examiner's disclosure objections as the numerical call-outs have been added to indicate parts of the invention that were originally depicted and no new matter is added.

REGARDING EXAMINER'S §112 REJECTIONS BASED ON ENABLEMENT:

Applicant has amended the claims as suggested by Examiner to correct antecedent problems noted by Examiner and for the presently claimed invention to particularly point out and distinctly

claim the subject matter of the invention in order to comply with the provisions of 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph. Specifically, nomenclature has been adjusted so that there is only a single limitation in both claims 1 and 6 that reference an "actuator", providing antecedent basis for all claims.

Applicant notes Examiner's other concerns on enablement. Applicant also submits "the specification must teach those skilled in the art how to make and use the full scope of the claimed invention without 'undue experimentation'." *In re Wright*, 27 USPQ2d 1510, 1513. However, "not everything necessary to practice the invention need be disclosed. In fact, what is well-known is best omitted." *In re Buchner*, 18 USPQ2d 1331, 1332. All that is necessary is that one skilled in the art be able to practice the claimed invention, given the level of knowledge and skill in the art. Further the scope of enablement must only bear a "reasonable correlation" to the scope of the claims. See, e.g., *In re Fisher*, 166 USPQ 18, 24.

Applicant also notes that confusion caused by mislabeling in the drawings and referencing incorrect figures in the specification has probably added greatly to Examiner's enablement concerns. As such, Applicant is providing a corrected Detailed Description section of the specification. Once the nomenclature of the drawings is corrected, the actual working of the latching mechanism is quite understandable from the drawings, though some additional clarification has been added in the detailed description and the location of the cam mechanism pivot point is also indicated. Complete half views, showing the components of the mechanism, are provided as FIGS. 2A and 2B, while inter-relation of the cam mechanism and bicuspid tooth with the buffer-tube module are depicted in FIGS. 9A-C. Taken as a whole, the drawings and description should now provide appropriate enablement.

REGARDING EXAMINER'S §102 REJECTIONS:

Applicant has examined the prior art submitted with Examiner's Office Action and, after careful consideration, has amended the claims to clearly distinguish the claimed invention over the prior art.

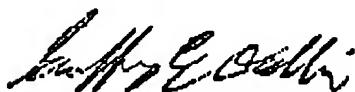
A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Brothers v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1031, 1053 (Fed Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed Cir. 1989).

Applicant has re-numbered the drawings to comply with the enablement requirements and correct a mislabeling error that, no doubt, contributed to all of Examiner's rejections based on §102(b). Applicant has also reviewed the prior art and believes that nomenclature should be changed to more accurately reflect the inter-relation of the parts of the invention. To this end, Applicant has changed the term "cam anchor" in the Specification and Claims to "latch anchor" as the former term implies the anchor is anchoring the camming mechanism where, in reality, it is anchoring the latch within the buffer tube module's rail track. It should be noted that each of the independent claims 1 and 6 require the latch anchor (formerly cam anchor) to be located between the cusps of the bicuspid tooth. None of the prior art references cited by Examiner disclose a latch anchor between the cusps of a bicuspid tooth, as such; the corrected nomenclature should suffice to overcome all of Examiner's §102 objections.

Applicant submits that Claims 1-17 are now clearly allowable over the prior art and Applicant respectfully requests allowance of these Claims and the case passed for issue. If Examiner believes that a telephonic conference would facilitate the examination of this Application, or would resolve questions Examiner may have, please do not hesitate to call Applicant's Attorney at the contact information below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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